

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 14 to 17 and 25 to 42 without prejudice.

This listing of claims will replace all prior revisions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for the preparation of sevoflurane which comprises:

(a) providing a liquid mixture of comprising  $(CF_3)_2CHOCH_2Cl$ , hydrogen fluoride, and an amine; and  
(b) reacting the mixture;  
to form  $(CF_3)_2CHOCH_2F$ .

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the mixture is reacted by heating.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the mixture is reacted by heating at 40°C to 80°C.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the mixture is reacted by heating at 55°C to 65°C.

5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the amine is selected from a primary amine, a secondary amine, or a tertiary amine.

6. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the amine is selected from propylamine or diethylamine.

7. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the amine is a tertiary amine.

8. (original) The method of claim 7, wherein the tertiary amine is a trialkylamine.

9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the trialkylamine is selected from triethylamine, tripropylamine, triisopropylamine, tributylamine, dimethyl ethyl amine, di-isopropyl ethyl amine, or mixtures thereof.

10. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the amine is a cyclic amine.

11. (original) The method of claim 10, wherein the cyclic amine is selected from pyrrolidine, N-methyl pyrrolidine, or piperidine.

12. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the mixture comprises  $(CF_3)_2CHOCHCl_2$ .

13. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the mixture comprises from 0.01 to 20 percent by weight of  $(CF_3)_2CHOCHCl_2$ .

Claims 14 to 17 (canceled).

18. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the mole ratio of the  $(CF_3)_2CHOCH_2Cl$  to the hydrogen fluoride is from 1:1 to 1:2.

19. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the mole ratio of the  $(CF_3)_2CHOCH_2Cl$  to the amine is from 1:0.3 to 1:2.

20. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein the mixture is reacted for 4 to 12 hours.

21. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein the mixture is reacted for 4 to 10 hours.

22. (original) The method of claim 3, wherein the mixture is reacted for 4 to 7 hours.

23. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the yield of the reaction is at least 50 percent.

24. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the yield of the reaction is at least 65 percent.

Claims 25 to 42 (canceled).